

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
ORLANDO DIVISION**

JANE DOE,

Plaintiff,

v.

LONESTAR IT SOLUTIONS, LLC;
and TRANSUNION RENTAL
SCREENING SOLUTIONS, INC.,

Defendants.

Case No. 6:23-cv-575-RBD-RMN

ORDER

This cause is before Court on Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Serve Process on Defendant by Email (Dkt. 13). Plaintiff filed the complaint in this matter using a pseudonym. She has not disclosed her identity to the Court or sought leave to proceed in that way.

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 10(a) provides that, "[e]very pleading must have a caption with the court's name, a title, a file number, and a Rule 7(a) designation. The title of complaint must name all the parties; the title of the other pleadings, after naming the party on each side, may refer generally to other parties." Fed. R. Civ. P. 10(a). Although Rule 10(a)'s inclusion of the mandative word, "must," would yield an all-out ban on any party seeking to proceed with a pseudonym, courts have permitted

pseudonymous litigation in limited circumstances. It is Plaintiff's burden to show why, under the factors arrayed in *Southern Methodist University Association of Women Law Students v. Wynne & Jaffe*, 599 F.2d 707, 713 (5th Cir. 1979), and further expounded upon by the Eleventh Circuit in later opinions, the Court should grant her leave to proceed under a pseudonym. *See, e.g., Plaintiff B v. Francis*, 631 F.3d 1310, 1316 (11th Cir. 2011) (setting forth factors for district courts to weigh when deciding a motion to proceed under pseudonym).

Plaintiff has not sought leave to proceed under a pseudonym. She must do so before seeking other relief from the Court.

Upon consideration, it is **ORDERED**:

1. Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Serve Process on Defendant by Email (Dkt. 13) is **DENIED without prejudice**;
2. Plaintiff is **DIRECTED** to file a Motion for Leave to Proceed Under Pseudonym if she chooses to prosecute her claims in that manner. To facilitate the Court's consideration of that issue, Plaintiff shall support any such motion with a declaration that establishes the harm that she believes she will suffer if her identity is revealed and any other information she deems relevant to these proceedings; and

3. Counsel is reminded that the Local Rules of this Court do not permit a party to submit a proposed order. *See* Local Rule 3.01(f).

DONE and **ORDERED** in Orlando, Florida, on April 24, 2023.



ROBERT M. NORWAY
United States Magistrate Judge

Copies furnished to:

Counsel of Record